

COUNCIL TO COMMUNITY

January

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Thank you to Plumb It Right for sponsoring the 2019 Rates Incentive Prize Night.

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Our Community News

Welcome to Les



Welcome to the New Year and welcome to Les Crichton who commenced with the Shire of Gingin on 6 January 2020. Les has taken over from Kaye Lowes as the Shire's new Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services and brings with him to the Shire 11 years' of experience in local government.

Les was born in Samoa and spent ten years in New Zealand before moving to Perth. He started his career in local government with the Shire of Three Springs as Deputy CEO before moving to Dowerin as CEO and then to the City of Claremont to serve as the Director Corporate & Governance.

Les and his wife are excited to be returning to a rural local government area and he is looking forward to getting involved with the community and the challenge of working in a growing and very diverse rural government situated close to the metropolitan area.

The Shire is glad to have him join our team and we hope that the community will make him feel welcome.

Gingin Library – Interlibrary Loan Restrictions

Since September 2018 public libraries have not been allowed to borrow junior items from other WA Libraries. After much protesting (especially by country libraries) the State Library has reinstated inter-library loans for Juniors. If your child's request to order in a special item has previously been refused, please go back to your library and request it again. DVDs are still restricted (except for those that are part of a series) as are all new items that are less than 12 months old.



Our Community News

Ledge Point To Lancelin Road Project

At the recent Upper Coastal Sporting facilities workshop held in late November 2019, there was a mixed awareness/views of the Ledge Point to Lancelin (LP-L) Road Project. To clarify a few points:

1. How did the idea for this project come about?

The Shire has been discussing this project as a concept for many years now. Discussions have occurred with the Department of Transport with relation to the development of the proposed marina at Ledge Point and associated need. There is already an existing off-road track on a road reserve which lays the foundation for a new road.

2. Why does the project need a 'Business Case'?

A Business Case is essential to support grant funding applications for the proposed project, in particular to justify the need and feasibility. Consultants have been contracted to assess the potential benefits (to the Upper Coastal Region) and costs of the LP-L Road should it progress to construction.

3. What difference will the project make?

The LP-L Road will improve local accessibility between Ledge Point and Lancelin by creating a direct route between services and facilities for both communities. Additionally, the project would aim to include bike and walking access. The LP-L Road also reduces the need to drive via Indian Ocean Drive and provides a second entry/exit road point (highly desirable if required in the event of a disaster emergency e.g. fire) and supports tourism connectivity along the upper coast.

4. When will the business case for the project be completed?

This business case research is intended to be completed by mid-2020 with the road construction phase completion date yet to be determined.

5. What happens after the business case is completed?

Once completed the Shire will seek to apply for grant funding that specifically supports road construction. While funding may not be available in the short-term, this research does provide the information required to apply when the funding rounds are open. The design will need to be completed so as to provide a basis for the estimated construction costs.

Virtual Swim To Rottnest



It's back for 2020! The Virtual Swim to Rottnest is happening again at the Gingin Aquatic Centre on Saturday, 22 February 2020 from 8am. All proceeds this year will be donated to the Red Cross Fire Appeal.

For details contact Fran Haenni, the Pool Manager, on 0447 790 291.

Our Community News

No Time to Relax – The Bush Fire Season Isn't Over

The Yanchep/Two Rocks/Guilderton bushfire in late 2019 is now over and our communities are safe for the moment but the bushfire season for 2019/20 is still ongoing. Fires in other parts of Australia at the moment continue to remind us of this. Many of our dedicated local firefighters continue to fight these fires even now over east and around the Eyre Highway in WA.

In a bushfire every five minutes counts – **especially your next five minutes**. The single biggest killer is indecision. To survive a bushfire you must be prepared to make your own decisions.

That's why the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (with the full support of the Shire of Gingin) is encouraging community members to sit down with their families and have a 'Five Minute Fire Chat' about if a bushfire were to occur, what would you do?

- When will you know to leave?
- Where will you go?
- Which way will you go?

Visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au/firechat for further information and to access a series of tools to help you and your family put in place a plan so that if there is a bushfire emergency, you'll have your plan and know what to do immediately.



Save the Dates!

- **21 January** – Ordinary Council Meeting at 3pm, Shire Administration Centre, Gingin
- **26 January** – Australia Day event at the Neergabby Grounds – **FREE Event**
- **3 February** – Shire of Gingin Community Grants Program opens for Applications
- **16 February** – Lancelin Triathlon, Lancelin town site/foreshore – **Participation Fee**
- **19 February** – Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities – 'Scenarios' Workshop, Lancelin Sporting Complex
- **22 February** – Virtual Swim to Rottnest from 8am, Gingin Aquatic Centre – **all proceeds to the Red Cross Fire Appeal**
- **29 February** – Melody & Movie in the Park, Ledge Point Oval – **FREE Event**
- **14 March** – Upper Coastal Sporting Facilities – 'Priorities' Workshop, Ledge Point Country Club
- **22 March** – Gingin Triathlon, Gingin recreation grounds/town site – **Participation Fee**

Please go to the **Events Calendar** on the Shire's website www.gingin.wa.gov.au for more details for these event and others.